

Pam.  
Near East  
Turke

American  
Friends of Turkey



19 West 44th Street  
New York

# American Friends of Turkey, Inc.

19 West 44th Street

New York, N. Y.

TEL. MURRAY HILL 2-4120

American Cable Address: TURKOPHILE

Turkish Cable Address: JENNINGS, ANCORA

## OFFICERS

WILLIAM H. HOOVER, *President*  
ANITA McCORMICK BLAINE, *Vice President*  
RAYFORD W. ALLEY, *Vice President*  
ASA K. JENNINGS, *Executive Vice President*  
JAMES W. DE GRAFF, *Treasurer*  
WILLIAM G. SCHRAM, *Controller*  
FREDERIC M. THRASHER, *Secretary*  
ASA WILL JENNINGS, *Assistant Secretary*

## DIRECTORS

RAYFORD W. ALLEY  
ANITA McCORMICK BLAINE  
MARK L. BRISTOL, *Admiral U.S.N.*  
MRS. JAMES W. DE GRAFF  
JOHN DEWEY  
CLEVELAND E. DODGE  
STEPHEN P. DUGGAN  
JOHN H. FINLEY  
MRS. JOHN H. FINLEY  
MRS. HARRY EMERSON FOSDICK  
WILFRED W. FRY  
HAMILTON HOLT  
WILLIAM H. HOOVER  
ASA K. JENNINGS  
MARY MILLS PATRICK  
GEORGE A. PLIMPTON  
FREDERIC M. THRASHER  
JAMES E. WEST

## ADVISORY COUNCIL

HIS EXC. A. MUHTAR  
TURKISH AMBASSADOR  
HON. A. BEDI, *Commsellor*  
TURKISH EMBASSY  
HON. H. BASRI  
TURKISH CONSUL GENERAL  
NURI SABIT, *First Secretary*  
TURKISH EMBASSY  
USSAKI BULENT, *Second Secretary*  
TURKISH EMBASSY  
MUZAFFER AHMET, *Com'l Delegate*

GORDON L. BERRY	THOMAS JESSE JONES
PHILIP MARSHALL BROWN	WILLIAM D. MURRAY
ELIZABETH CLARAHAN	JAMES H. POST
WILLIAM H. CROSBY	FRED W. RAMSEY
WILLIAM T. ELLIS	G. HOWLAND SHAW
FRED. F. GOODSSELL	ALBERT W. STAUB
HAROLD C. JAQUITH	BENJAMIN THAW
GEORGE E. VINCENT	

# The American Friends of Turkey

## What It Is

**T**HE AMERICAN FRIENDS OF TURKEY is a humanitarian organization, having as its purpose the promotion of a better understanding and the development of goodwill between the peoples of Turkey and of the United States.

Its specific aim is to cooperate directly with the Turkish people through their own institutions and government in various ways acceptable to the Turkish people through their recognized leaders, to the end that the people, and particularly the youth and the children of the country, may enjoy the benefits of those advanced measures and methods of social work for the international promotion of which America has taken first place among the nations of the world.

Since the establishment of the Republic in 1923 the leaders of the Turkish people have shown a determination, while holding to those things which they regard as essential from their own cultural past, to draw on the tested experience of other nations along any line believed to be adaptable to the needs and conditions of modern Turkey. Thus, for their laws they have adopted the civil code of Switzerland, the criminal code of Italy, and the commercial code of Germany. In their governmental organization, in public hygiene, and in the development of their school system they have drawn heavily on German and Anglo-Saxon experience. In physical education Sweden and Denmark have been their teachers. In all phases of their program of social service they are looking hopefully and confidently to the United States.

To fulfill these hopes and expectations, and to cooperate and coordinate with other American organizations in Turkey, the society of American Friends of Turkey was organized in June, 1930.

## How It Began

The idea which led to the present plan of working with the Turkish people was developed soon after the Turkish Army in 1922 triumphantly entered Smyrna under its leader, Mustapha Kemal Pasha. At that time the political status of the old Turkish Empire was changed; a new Turkish Republic was created with Kemal as its first President.

Asa K. Jennings was a resident of Smyrna during these days, working there as a Secretary of the International Committee of Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and Canada in its service with Turks, Greeks, Jews, Armenians and Europeans. The chaos caused by the evacuation of the Greek Army and the arrival of countless Greek and Armenian refugees from the interior necessitated relief measures, which were organized under the chairmanship of Admiral Mark L. Bristol, U. S. High Commissioner, at the request of the American Consul General of Smyrna, Dr. George Horton. Mr. Jennings took a prominent place in the leadership of the volunteer relief work. After the arrival of the Turkish Army a great portion of the City of Smyrna burned to the ground. It then became apparent that the refugees must either be transported to Greek territory or be returned to the interior of Turkey. The refugees refused to consider the second alternative. They were already suffering from hunger, lack of shelter and medical attention, with no guarantee as to what might happen to them if they remained in the City of Smyrna.

## The Evacuation of Smyrna

With the cooperation of the United States Navy Mr. Jennings secured from the Greek Government fifty ships, large and small, to assist in the evacuation. He was put in full command of this fleet by the Greek Government. In the six days following the 22nd of September, 1922, the date the ships were placed at the disposal of Mr. Jennings, approximately 300,000 refugees were transported from Smyrna and adjacent ports, in addition to those transported later from the Black Sea and the Mediterranean Sea, to Greek territory, over a half million in all.

## Exchange of Prisoners

Mr. Jennings was requested to attend the subsequent conference of the Allies and the Turkish Revolutionary Government at Lausanne, and as a result was invited to serve on the Commission for the Exchange of Prisoners between the Greeks and Turks. Admiral Bristol placed American destroyers at the disposal of this Commission, which made possible, through the voluntary cooperation of the American Navy and State authorities, a successful exchange of many thousands of prisoners between the two countries.

## A Request for Service

The excellent work undertaken and accomplished in Greece by the American Red Cross, the Near East Relief, the American Women's Hospitals, the American Y.M.C.A., the American Y.W.C.A., the Society of Friends, as well as by a number of European organizations, with these refugees is well known. This work in Greece led certain Turkish officials to ask Mr. Jennings why a similar work could not be undertaken in Turkey.

Admiral Bristol requested the International Committee of Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and Canada to release Mr. Jennings for such a service in Turkey. Mr. Jennings, therefore, remained to help the Turks develop their own welfare institutions and organizations. Called the "Anatolian Project" at first, and approved by the National Council of the Y.M.C.A., this work has, however, almost from the beginning been financially independent, providing its own budget from interested people who have been pleased to be designated as "American Friends of Turkey."

In the month of April, 1923, Dr. Cass A. Reed, President of International College, Smyrna, A. Wallace Treat, American Consul, and Asa K. Jennings first discussed the idea with Abdul Halik Bey, Governor of the Province of Smyrna, Shukri Kaya Bey, Mayor of the City, and other prominent Turks, regarding the cooperation of Americans in creating a community social service center for Smyrna. The idea met with general approval and immediate consideration was given to the ways and means by which such an enterprise might be supported.

## Turkish-American Clubs

Mr. Jennings returned to America and obtained the approval of the National Council of the Y.M.C.A., the Foreign Committee of the Y.W.C.A., and the Prudential Committee of the American Board, and an appropriation of \$50,000.00 for a period of three years from the War Work Council of the Y.M.C.A. for the purpose of establishing a social service center to be called "The Turkish-American Club" or "The Preparation for Life Club" of the Y.M.C.A.

Upon his return to Smyrna Mr. Jennings learned that the Governor and Mayor had been elected members of Parliament and appointed to responsible positions with the new Turkish Government in Angora. It was soon discovered that the increasing prejudice against foreigners and foreign institutions was so great as to make it unwise to attempt any service connected directly or indirectly with the Y.M.C.A., or any other foreign institution with similar background. This was largely due to the recent treatment Turks had received from the Allies, which were considered Christian countries.

Turkish friends suggested that Angora, being the capital of Turkey, would be more suitable than Smyrna to make the beginnings of cooperation between the Americans and Turks. Mr. Jennings, therefore, proceeded to Angora and consulted Vassif Bey, then Minister of Education, with the result that on July 3, 1924, the following statement was presented to Mr. Jennings for his signature:

### *"The Organization of Turkish-American Clubs*

"SECTION 1. There will be formed at Angora a Central Administrative Committee composed of three Turks and three Americans under the chairmanship of Vassif Bey, the Minister of Education. The American members will be chosen from among the Americans whom the chairman approves. This Central Administrative Committee is responsible for the administration and organization of the Clubs.

"SEC. 2. These Clubs will endeavor to promote the physical, aesthetic, intellectual and social development of the youth of Turkey.

"SEC. 3. Program of activities: (a) Physical education: athletics, sports, games, competitions,

playgrounds. (b) Practical education: language lessons, commercial courses, stenography, chauffeur and automobile mechanics, music lessons, trade courses. (c) Social and intellectual activity: theatricals, concerts, social gatherings, excursions, lectures, publications, relief work.

"SEC. 4. It is highly important to open clubs in six centers in Turkey. The Central Administrative Committee will determine when and where these Clubs are to be opened.

"SEC. 5. It is understood that Turks and Americans will together meet the expense of these Clubs. The initial expenses will be secured by the Americans."

Inasmuch as this proposition was to be an independent project, it was decided by the Y.M.C.A. that Mr. Jennings should raise funds which would be entirely independent of the funds of the Association. This required another journey to America, the purpose of which was to raise, if possible, \$25,000.00 a year for three years. Mr. Jennings met, among others, Arthur Nash of Cincinnati, Ohio, called "Golden Rule" Nash because of his advertised application of the Golden Rule to business. Mr. Nash at once became greatly interested in the idea of helping the Turks to help themselves and considered the proposition, policy and program Mr. Jennings outlined very favorably.

While Mr. Jennings was in the United States he learned that Hamdullah Soubhi Bey, President of the Turk Ojak (national cultural organization) had been appointed Minister of Education, replacing Vassif Bey, who had been named Ambassador to Czechoslovakia. Shortly thereafter Hamdullah Soubhi Bey, as Minister of Education, wrote Mr. Jennings that he was quite willing to carry out the agreement which had been made with Vassif Bey when the latter was the Minister of Education.

### **The Nash Project**

Mr. Nash subsequently pledged \$50,000.00 a year for five years, to be used in the development of the idea of Turkish-American Clubs with the understanding that the money for the most part was to be used for buildings. Mr. Jennings accepted this condition, although he believed personnel, policy and program to be more important

than buildings. The portion of the pledge which Mr. Nash was willing to have used for American personnel made it possible to complete the raising of the amount of money necessary to carry out the project as originally agreed upon (\$25,000.00 a year for three years), leaving over \$40,000.00 a year to be used for buildings.

Arriving once again in Turkey Mr. Jennings learned from Hamdullah Soubhi Bey that, inasmuch as the United States had not ratified the Lausanne Treaty, it would be impossible to carry out the original agreement for the development of Turkish-American Clubs. Hamdullah Bey pointed out, however, that, in his opinion, the idea of American cooperation could be realized through participation with the Turk Ojak, inasmuch as he was President of that society as well as the Minister of Education.

The American money having been obtained for the purpose of carrying out the original agreement, Mr. Jennings explained that no change in plans could be made without first securing the approval of the contributors.

During these negotiations Mr. Nash, impatient for action, instructed that \$120,000.00 be paid within three months to Hamdullah Soubhi Bey for the construction of a new Ojak building in Angora. Mr. Nash was willing, in fact he preferred, that the money which he had promised be turned over to the Turks without any agreement whatever. This was therefore done.

This money was used by the Ojak to help defray the cost of their new headquarters building in Angora. Later on the Ojak dissolved and the building has become the national headquarters of the People's Party.

This unconditional donation made impossible the definite completion at that time of the mutual agreements that were about to be consummated. Mr. Jennings therefore returned to Smyrna to develop a program of social service for that city as had been originally planned.

## **The Smyrna Community Welfare Council**

In Smyrna work was begun under the direction of Mr. Jennings and a committee composed of both Americans and Turks, representing the various Turkish welfare organizations and the



Government. The name given to this organization was the "Community Welfare Council," with the Mayor and former Governor of Smyrna, Aziz Bey, as chairman. Under this arrangement certain definite projects were completed.

### **Baby Home**

The first project undertaken by the Council was a much-needed home for abandoned and orphan babies. This work was developed, equipped and maintained in cooperation with the city administration and the Health Department of the Government. With a capacity of seventy-five babies the Home is equal to any in Europe and has been complimented by all who have visited it.

### **Turkey's First Playground**

In cooperation with the city administration, the Council provided the leadership for and assisted in the development, in the beautiful new city park, formerly a dilapidated old Turkish cemetery, of the first organized and adequately equipped playground in Turkey. The honor of creating this field belongs to Aziz Bey, the Mayor of Smyrna. Located in the heart of the city, this playground was equipped with modern apparatus from America. The use of vacant lots in all parts of the city was also promoted; and games taught to the children.

### **A Community Sport Field**

A third project was a community sport field, which today is the best in Turkey. A fine stadium was built on this athletic field. The organization of sport clubs and teams was encouraged and many clubs were assisted in the development of their physical work program.

### **Night School in a Mosque**

Another achievement was a night school for working boys in one of the most beautiful mosques in Smyrna. This was accomplished in cooperation with the city and the Turkish Teachers' Association. Here hundreds of boys and young men learned to read and write their own and

foreign languages, studied other subjects and played games in a place of their own where they were not expected to buy coffee or tea, to gamble or drink. It is interesting to note that the mosque authorities at first disapproved of such a program in a mosque, but gradually, as they observed only good results from it, came to endorse it heartily.

### Prison Reform

Another very important project which had its inception in Smyrna, but which is still on the threshold of its development in Turkey as a whole, is in connection with prison reform. In the past, Turkish jails have been known for their maladministration and lack of sympathy for the inmates. The present Government, however, while interested in the welfare of the prisoner, has as yet been unable adequately to solve the problem. There was not, nor is there now, a juvenile court or probation system, nor were the boys in prison separated from adult prisoners. The Community Welfare Council was given the privilege of doing anything it desired in connection with the Smyrna prison which would not violate the principle of punishment. The Council therefore persuaded the prison officials to provide separate rooms permitting the separation of the juvenile from the adult prisoners; and assisted also in the development of a prison school for boys from 11 to 18 years of age. Moreover, it directed a daily period of supervised recreation in the prison yard for all inmates.

### Clinics

Under the auspices of the Community Welfare Council the first babies' and mothers' clinic in Turkey was inaugurated. Permission was obtained from the Commissioner of Health of Chicago to translate into Turkish Chicago's twelve health letters on the care of infants and mothers during the first twelve months of the baby's life. These letters, one a month for the first year, were sent to as many mothers of newly-born babies as could be reached. Letters of gratitude received from parents, often enclosing pictures of the babies, testify to the great good accomplished.

## **Transfer of Activities to Angora**

The achievements of the Smyrna Community Welfare Council attracted the attention of Government officials in Angora to such an extent that late in 1928 the American group was invited by them to transfer to that city, which is the official center of all Government activities and of all national organizations and institutions. They believed that such an enterprise there, in cooperation with the Turkish people, their Government, with other institutions and organizations, would have a more far-reaching effect than elsewhere, because all Turkey looks to Angora.

The Council's work in Smyrna, therefore, was turned over to the organizations with which the Council was cooperating and headquarters transferred to Angora. The projects which had been undertaken in Smyrna are now being carried on by the Turks themselves.

After conference in Angora with various officials, among whom was Aziz Bey, formerly Mayor of Smyrna and Chairman of the Smyrna Community Welfare Council, and now a member of Parliament, it was thought that work could best be started in the Capitol by cooperating with the Himayei Etfal or Turkish National Child Welfare Association. It was decided to form what was known as the Special Commission of the Himayei Etfal to work out a policy and program and to create a budget sufficient to put into operation the program which was to be under its direction. In accordance with the policy maintained from the beginning, the agreements provided that in no project should the Americans contribute more than half of the total amount necessary.

### **The Special Commission of the Himayei Etfal**

The Prime Minister of Turkey approved this Special Commission which consisted of five members of the Executive Committee of the Turkish Child Welfare Association and one representative from each of the Ministries of Education, Health, Justice, the Turk Ojak, and the American Friends of Turkey. All members of the Special Commission were members of Parliament except the representatives of the respective min-

istries, and Asa K. Jennings, who represented the American group now known as the American Friends of Turkey. Thus authorized by the Government to work for Turkish youth, the purpose of the Commission was to better health conditions, create and develop the character-building program, and promote the good citizenship of the younger generation.

Three sub-committees of the Special Commission were formed, each in charge of a section of the following program:

I. Playground and Public Recreation: The development of a model playground and the organization of public recreation, the program of which would include: (a) Physical education; (b) Organization of sports; (c) Group and mass games; (d) Team games; (e) Gymnastics and apparatus work; (f) Contests.

II. Social Service: (a) Establishment and operation of clinics; (b) Boys' Clubs; (c) Special programs and features, such as camp, holiday celebrations, etc.; (d) Conferences and round-table discussions; (e) Service to delinquent and under-privileged youth.

III. Translations and Publications: Activities of this sub-committee consisted of: (a) Translation, writing and publication of books; (b) Preparation and printing of special pamphlets; (c) Printing and distribution of health education posters; (d) Writing of special section in Child Welfare Magazine; (e) Sale and distribution service for all of above; (f) Building up of a reference library on subjects dealt with by the Special Commission.

## **A Playground in Angora**

Because there was no Turkish society responsible for a program for children between the ages of 7 and 18, and because the playground idea had been developed so successfully in Smyrna, a similar project was the first to be started in Angora.

The most suitable place available, a rather sloping hill next to the Himayei Etfal building, in the heart of the city, was selected. It was terraced and equipped according to the latest standards in America, all apparatus being donated by the Everwear Manufacturing Company, of Springfield, Ohio. A swimming pool and a

wading pool, the first in Turkey, were included. Even before its opening the playground was used on an average by 300 children daily. Since its formal opening in April, 1930, there have been over 3,000 children under sixteen years of age regularly participating in its program, with an average daily attendance of over 800.

The program, as worked out, not only taught and directed organized play, but promoted democracy, something new in the Near East. All children received the same treatment and had the same privileges, whether they came from the homes of the rich or the homes of the poor. The schedule in connection with the playground included all six divisions mentioned above.

### Clinics

A notable development was the establishment of clinics. Pre-natal, baby, and dental clinics were opened and operated with great success. The dental clinic, while small, was the first of its kind in Turkey. The Minister of Education made it compulsory for as many as possible of the elementary school children in Angora to attend. This demonstration, it is hoped, will reveal the necessity, as well as provide the opportunity, for similar work in the Government's plans for the health of the children of Turkey.

When the first baby clinic was established, many women were afraid to bring their children, as they did not wish to take the risk of displeasing Allah, who willed, they thought, that their little ones be sick. However, when they saw that the children of their neighbors were benefited, they brought in their children also.

In the winter of 1929/1930, Mr. Jennings returned to the United States to enlist the cooperation of more American friends. His plans for further development were laid before His Excellency Ahmet Muhtar, Turkish Ambassador to the United States, who under date of June 10, 1930, wrote the following to Mr. Jennings:

"I am very much interested in the project mentioned in your letter of June 3rd concerning the incorporation of the American Friends of Turkey. The purposes of this organization appeal to me most strongly, and I shall be delighted to do anything in my power to further your plans."

## W. H. Hoover Sponsors Larger Plans

After conference with, and on the advice of, influential friends of the work, Mr. William H. Hoover, Chairman of the Board of the Hoover Company, of North Canton, Ohio, who had been sponsoring the idea from its inception, invited a group of Americans familiar with the work and needs of Turkey to meet as his guests at a dinner given at the Hotel Roosevelt, New York City, June 11th, 1930. Dr. John H. Finley, Associate Editor of *The New York Times*, presided, and introduced as speakers the following persons: W. H. Hoover, Dr. George E. Vincent, Dr. Frederic M. Thrasher, Fred W. Ramsey, Albert W. Staub, Dr. Mary M. Patrick, Dr. Stephen P. Duggan, H. C. Jaquith, Homer Black, Rayford W. Alley, James E. West and Asa K. Jennings. The work accomplished was highly praised by the various speakers, all of whom were familiar with the program, and some of whom had witnessed the activities in Turkey. Appreciation of the sincere spirit of friendship and cooperation between the Turkish and American friends was expressed.

## The American Friends of Turkey, Inc.

The meeting voted unanimously to incorporate the American Friends of Turkey under the laws of the State of New York. This was completed July 12th, 1930. The American office of the corporation was established the same month. Its purpose is to assist Turkish students in the securing of scholarships, fellowships, funds, self-help, and a correct knowledge of American institutions and organizations; to acquaint them also with modern methods of efficiency so that ideas gained here may be adapted to Turkey. The New York office seeks to increase the supporting constituency and goodwill by disseminating information as to Turkish progress and what is being accomplished by the American help.

Among the subjects studied by Turkish students in the United States who are now being assisted by the American Friends of Turkey are Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Banking, Business Administration, Dentistry, Economics, Engineering, International Law and Criminology, Journalism, Mathematics, Medicine, Nursing and Social Service.

The American Friends of Turkey have arranged for a Turkish debating team, under the auspices of the National Student Federation of America, to make a tour of the United States in the Fall of 1931, meeting the teams representing about 35 American colleges and universities. This will be the first time that a Turkish debating team has ever visited the United States.

It is also hoped that by the Fall of 1931 this organization will be able to send to the President of Turkey, Mustapha Kemal Pasha, a number of pedigreed cattle for use on his model farm near Angora, as a gift from certain American friends.

In the Fall of 1930, Mr. Jennings returned again to Turkey. In response to the new calls for cooperation it was decided, after a conference with Turks prominent in Governmental circles, and interested in the development of Turkish social welfare, to organize a special Turkish society for direct cooperation with the American Friends of Turkey in order to avoid dealing with the various single Turkish organizations.

The Special Committee of the *Himayei Etfal* had been misunderstood by many, even by its Chairman, the President of the *Himayei Etfal*, as being interested chiefly in his organization. It was the belief of other prominent Turkish officials that the American Friends of Turkey should be in a position to help all the different lines of social welfare.

### **Hayir Islerine Yardim Cemiyeti**

Therefore, the Turks themselves, incorporated under the laws of Turkey a new Turkish welfare organization called the "Hayir Islerine Yardim Cemiyeti" or "Society for the Promotion and Support of Good Works." The General Board of the Hayir Islerine Yardim Cemiyeti is composed of the following persons:

Honorary President, Ismet Pasha, Prime Minister of Turkey; President, Ali Bey, Deputy of Afyon Karahissar and President of the People's Party; Vice President, Aziz Bey, Deputy of Erzurum; Secretary, Ihsan Pasha, Deputy of Istanbul; Treasurer, Makbule Hanim, Ankara City Council; Ali Raana Bey, Deputy of Samsun; Assim Bey, Director of the Red Crescent; Ali

Riza Bey, Deputy of Kastamoni; Avni Bey, Council of Education; Dr. Fuat Bey, Deputy of Kirklareli; Hakki Shinasi Pasha, Deputy of Istanbul; Ibrahim Sureya Bey, Deputy of Kocaeli; Naci Pasha, Deputy of Cebelbereket; Nafi Atuf Bey, Deputy of Erzurum; Rechid Galip Bey, Deputy of Aydin.

To facilitate the cooperation with the American Friends of Turkey, the Hayir Islerine Yardim Cemiyeti selected six of the members of their Administrative Council to form, with three Americans representing the American Friends of Turkey, an active working committee termed the "Mixed Commission." The American members of the Mixed Commission are Mr. G. Howland Shaw, Counsellor to the American Embassy in Turkey; Miss Elizabeth Clarahan, Professor of Education and Dean of the Preparatory School at Constantinople Women's College; and Asa K. Jennings, Executive Vice President, American Friends of Turkey, ad interim, Mr. W. T. Ganaway, Field Representative of the American Friends of Turkey. The Turkish members are Ali Bey, Aziz Bey, Ali Raana Bey, Avni Bey, Makbule Hanim, and Ihsan Pasha.

### **The Mixed Commission**

The Mixed Commission deals directly with any Turkish organization, institution or department of Government that may request assistance or advice. Whenever any Turkish institution desires aid of any sort, they make their request to the Mixed Commission. An Investigating Committee is then appointed, which is composed of one member of the requesting society and two members of the Mixed Commission (one American and one Turk), which works out a plan of cooperation. This plan is submitted to the Mixed Commission for approval as well as to the requesting Turkish agency. The members of the Mixed Commission may also refer the proposed agreement to the American Friends of Turkey and the Hayir Islerine Yardim Cemiyeti for their endorsement if desired or necessary.

As work proceeds on approved projects, both the cooperating Turkish society and the American Friends of Turkey deposit equal shares of the



proposed budget in the treasury of the Mixed Commission. The Investigating Committee becomes the Committee of Administration and Control and no money is paid out except on the vote and approval of this committee.

The members of the General Board of the Hayir Islerine Yardim Cemiyeti and also the members of its Administrative Council are among the foremost Turkish leaders. They are most sympathetic to anything that has to do with the development of a progressive, educational, social and physical program for Turkey and her youth.

Following the organization of the Hayir Islerine Yardim Cemiyeti the new society wrote to the American Friends of Turkey the following letter:

"To the Officers and Members of the American Friends of Turkey, Inc. Greetings:

"Herewith please be advised that a society under the name and seal of the Hayir Islerine Yardim Cemiyeti' (Turkish Welfare Society) has been formed in the Republic of Turkey for the purpose of sponsoring and assisting in the development of social welfare work among the Turkish people. The society will, insofar as is possible, work through and in cooperation with the existing social agencies operating within the Turkish Republic, and will undertake welfare work whenever it is deemed necessary under its own jurisdiction.

"It being understood through the Executive Vice President of the American Friends of Turkey, Inc., Asa K. Jennings, that your corporation stands ready to render assistance to the Turkish people under certain understood conditions, the founders and officers of the Hayir Islerine Yardim Cemiyeti ask your cooperation.

"In accordance with the conditions for cooperation established in the Articles of Incorporation of your corporation, the Hayir Islerine Yardim Cemiyeti, through its Administrative Council, has appointed a Mixed Commission composed of six of the members of its Administrative Council and three American representatives of the American Friends of Turkey, Inc., proposed by the Executive Vice President of your corporation and approved by our society. The Mixed Commission stands ready, through its committees, to undertake such work as shall be presented to it under the terms of agreements previously entered into.

"The Hayir Islerine Yardim Cemiyeti takes this opportunity of expressing to the American Friends of Turkey, Inc., its deep appreciation of the aims and purposes of the corporation and the aid in the development of social welfare work in the Turkish Republic that the corporation has so generously offered.

"Please accept our expression of high esteem."

It is agreed between the American Friends of Turkey and the Hayir Islerine Yardim Cemiyeti that, with reference to financial cooperation in connection with any project mutually approved, the participation of the American Friends of Turkey shall under no circumstances be more than one-half the total amount of the budget, the support of the American personnel and office excepted. It is further understood and agreed that as rapidly as possible the Turkish organizations will assume full financial support.

### **New Plans Materialize**

All work under the Special Commission of the Himayei Etfal was brought to a close and the Special Commission itself was dissolved December 31, 1930. All projects under way with which the American Friends of Turkey had any connection were allocated by them to the Turkish societies with which they had been cooperating. The Hayir Islerine Yardim Cemiyeti began to function January 1, 1931; and at the same time the American Friends of Turkey, Inc., entered upon their cooperation with the various Turkish institutions and departments of Government through the Hayir Islerine Yardim Cemiyeti and the Mixed Commission. This made necessary new agreements with all Turkish societies which desired the cooperation of the American Friends of Turkey.

There has been, of course, since the first of January, 1931, a period of transition and adjustment. Under this new arrangement the following projects are either already under way or are being worked out.

### **Projects Now Under Way**

I. An agreement has been reached between the Turkish Maarif Cemiyeti, or Society for the Advancement of General Education, and the Mixed

Commission, for cooperation during the current year. This looks forward to a three year program in connection with the translating and publishing of books, designed to help make up for the great dearth of good reading material printed in the new alphabet, for the youth and for those adults who are learning to read and write. Books are selected in cooperation with the Turkish Ministry of Education. Plans also include the establishment of two libraries and reading rooms in different parts of Angora and the development of night and trade schools.

The first book being published under this arrangement is one of games, both Turkish and American, every one of which has been tried out on Turkish playfields or in Turkish homes. A choice selection of those best adapted for use in Turkey has been made. The book has been accepted and approved by the Turkish Ministry of Education. In the compiling of this volume, personnel of the American Board, the Y.W.C.A., the Y.M.C.A., as well as certain Turkish friends cooperated.

II. Agreements have been reached between the Mixed Commission and the Himayei Etfal for the first day nursery in Turkey. This service, greatly needed by the working women of Angora, is to be in the form of a demonstration possible of duplication in other Turkish cities.

III. The Kadin Yardim Cemiyeti is an association of altruistic ladies in the city of Angora who seek to operate an industrial institution employing the poorer working women of the city so as to produce saleable products, thereby making it possible for these women to earn a living. This society some months ago requested the Mixed Commission to assist them in a program of expansion. The policy of the Mixed Commission and the American Friends of Turkey, however, limits their activities strictly within the field of social service and education. A three year program of cooperation with this society has been worked out, by which the participation of the American Friends of Turkey will be along the lines of social service of all kinds for needy mothers and for the women of the working class. This plan contemplates an ever decreasing scale of American financial aid, but a constant growth in advice and technical help.

IV. One of the first proposals of the Mixed Commission was to begin immediately at Angora, in connection with some existing organization, work for the benefit of the poorer working boys under 16 years of age, for whom nothing ever has been or is being done. . Because little more was known about this group than that there existed great need, it was thought best that, before starting work, the Mixed Commission should make a survey. The responsibility for this investigation was turned over to Mr. Burhans, one of the American representatives on the field, with a staff of three Turks. The survey forms used were adapted from those of the New York State Department of Labor.

The survey, which covered a period of three months and included several hundred boys, made the dire need of this group even more apparent. As a result the Mixed Commission has already completed negotiations for the establishment of a Working Boys' Home in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, the Red Crescent (the Turkish Red Cross), the Angora municipality, and the General Board of the newly organized Hayir Islerine Yardim Cemiyeti.

### Contemplated Projects

V. While it is the policy of the American Friends of Turkey to conduct most of its experimental work in Angora, the national capital, it has been requested that an exception be made for the interior town of Zinzederry, near Kayseri, where there is now a school for village teachers who, after graduation, teach in the interior of the country. There are about 300 of these student teachers, 35 of whom graduate in the summer of 1931. It has been requested that, during their period of six weeks' military training following graduation, they be gathered together in the afternoons and evenings with another group made up of two young men from each of twenty surrounding villages and of ten teachers already on the field, for an institute which will provide instruction in village recreation and games, village sanitation, health and first aid, and in general such matters as will be of use in bettering living conditions in the rural villages.

The results of work in establishing the Zinzederry Institute should be far-reaching in scope and importance, because these village teachers are the natural leaders in their respective communities and are regarded by their own people as authorities on every type of community problem.

VI. Always interested in prison reform, the American Friends of Turkey have long been willing to assist the Turkish Ministry of Justice in any way possible. Because of the difficulties involved it is necessary to take a long term point of view regarding prison reform and its correlaries—juvenile courts, probation system, and trade schools. It is the desire of the Minister of Justice to introduce reforms as rapidly as feasible. The Mixed Commission has therefore commenced a study of conditions to determine what is now possible under the new laws of the country.

By way of preparation the American Friends of Turkey have already cooperated with the Government in securing a Pugsley scholarship in Criminology and International Law at Harvard University for a promising young career man from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who, upon his return to Turkey, will be associated with the Ministry of Justice in order to assist in developing a Juvenile Court and Probation System.

A special opportunity is now presented to assist in the development of the trade school idea in prisons in Angora as an experiment to demonstrate what may be done throughout the country. Preliminary investigation seems to indicate that but a small amount of capital would be needed to start trade instruction in the large prison at Angora, and that the products of the shops would soon pay for the investment. As these products would be limited to such articles as are now being imported from foreign countries, there would be no problem of prison labor affecting market conditions.

VII. The model playground developed in Angora in cooperation with the Himayei Etfal under the Special Commission has been administered solely by the Himayei Etfal since January 1, 1931. Agreements are now being made for the development of two others in the poorer and

more needy sections of the city. It is expected that many other cities will profit by this demonstration in Angora.

VIII. An arrangement has been worked out by the Mixed Commission, duly approved by the Ministry of Education, in regard to Turkish students who desire to come to the United States for further study. This is an effort to make sure that only those students come to America who are properly qualified to do so; and that the American Friends of Turkey assume no responsibility for those who come otherwise recommended. Among these requirements are a proper knowledge of English and adequate financial backing from some source. Only those students are encouraged to come to the United States who have already received as much instruction and preparation as possible in their own country.

### **A New Technique of International Co-operation**

Practical social service has reached a volume and efficiency in the United States not attained elsewhere in the world. This is not because the American people are better than other nations; but because certain great forces have worked together toward this beneficent result. Abundant wealth, a rapidly changing social structure, a spirit of initiative and experimentation coming down from pioneer days, a feeling that social ideals should have a practical issue, an active sympathy and concern for one's fellows; all these motives and conditions lie behind America's notable achievements in practical good works.

But this achievement implies the obligation to make America's discoveries in humanitarian work available to other nations. Such contributions, however, must go forth in a spirit of humility, because of America's failure and inadequacy in many fields, and the valuable contributions which nearly every other nation has made to the life and culture of the United States.

The American Friends of Turkey believe that in this society there is a method provided for just this helpful cooperation. It is unique. The plan does not provide simply for another service in Turkey administered by Americans. It does pro-

vide for a new service administered by the Turks with American cooperation. The plan is sociologically and educationally sound in suggesting various tested types of service to the Turks themselves and providing initial funds by which the services may be started. And the Turks show their purpose and faith by contributing one-half the necessary funds. The plan, moreover, wisely avoids becoming involved in a large administrative machine operating at various points. Its organization is simple; it is the channel by which ideas and funds may pass to appropriate indigenous societies in Turkey under suitable safeguards to infuse the new national life of Turkey with a glowing practical idealism.

The American Friends of Turkey are blazing a new path in international cooperation.

MAY 25, 1931.

